AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Specification pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121 as follows:

Please amend paragraphs [0003-0005] to read as follows:

-- [0003] The application Cryptoheaven (see the ~~http://www.~~cryptoheaven.com website) is a Java application (applet/Java plug-in). Similarly to MS Explorer, the display is divided, on the left, into a directory tree (incl. the local computer) and a contact list. Settings can be made via the right mouse button/popup. A proprietary protocol via port 82 is used. Data compression is used. Files are signed and encrypted. Files can also be uploaded from the local file system using drag and drop (DnD). The sequence control substantially corresponds to that of MS Explorer. The encryption is done locally on the client computer. Directories can be created, deleted and renamed. Access to directories is enabled for "invited users". The invitation is made via e-mail by users who have subscribed to the system. The invited must give his/her consent. Authentication is via user ID and password. The system is available for the operating systems Windows/Unix and Linux.

[0004] Another typical application exists in bvPREMIERE, bvPRO, bvPLUS+ and big VAULT Enterprise (see the ~~http://www.~~bigvault.com website). The applications are specifically for Windows and allow a drive to be mapped (created) in MS Explorer, which is controlled via the WEB. The transmission protocol for uploading and downloading files is html over an SSL connection. File encryption is done on the server. Access to directories and files is enabled using a visitor password. There is an in-tray for authorized users. It is possible to log in as a user or visitor. Passwords with a limited validity period are set up in the same manner as has been done, for example, in UNIX for many years.

[0005] A further application offering an online file service for uploading/downloading is GLOBEDESK (see the ~~http://www.~~globedesk.com website). Uploading/downloading via the browser is done using html or ftp. The connection is secured by SSL. Encryption is done on the server. The names of the subscribers are listed in a directory. A click on a name establishes connection to the available directories. User identification is done using e-mail and name. --

Please amend paragraph [0010] to read as follows:

-- [0010] The aim of the data transfer is to store data in memories of servers in order to restore the data to the local computer when needed, to have the data processed on a remote computer, or to make the data available to third parties or to the user himself/herself at a different location for a certain period of time. The conditions under which access is allowed ~~is~~ are able to be precisely controlled and maintained. The storage of files requires a classification system which should provide clarity for the retrieval of files and optimally support data security. --

Please amend paragraph [0014] to read as follows:

-- [0014] During registration, the server operator creates a personal area of the server for the user, said personal area being called the main folder ~~(1)~~ of the user. Operating systems and databases store data and their management information in different ways. Here, the known model of folders (also: directories) and files is used for purposes of description. A file (containing the data) is always contained in a folder, which is either the so-called root folder, or is itself contained in a folder. Thus, starting from this folder, the root folder is reached via a chain of higher-level folders. The names of the folders in this chain are strung together to form the so-called path of the file. A file is uniquely described by its name and path. --

Please amend paragraph [0016] to read as follows:

-- [0016] Figure 3 illustrates the locker system. The main locker (1) (main folder and special file) contains further lockers which are set up by the operator and distinguished by function. These lockers include, inter alia, personal lockers (2), provisioning lockers (3), receiving lockers (4), and public lockers (5) for the users. The locker type is specified in the associated special file. --